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DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

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November 20, 1947

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Dept. of Genetics
University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Joshua:

Thank you for the reprints and the references to yeast medium. The work of Fox and Ward has been confirmed by us but I would say essentially rather than substantially. The only hesitation I had in giving permission to cite our confirmation was the fact that in one control tube (extract of "normal" yeast) precipitation of egg albumin occurred. I am certain that this is an error because earlier controls of the same nature gave no precipitation with egg albumin. Almost certainly this bizarre result arose from the mislabelling of one particular extract. However, I should be able to settle this point in the next 10 days because we have some more yeast in molasses without egg albumin and if these fail to produce a precipitation against egg albumin as they have previously with the one exception as noted, then I shall have no doubts that yeast make precipitins against albumin. The nature of the specific reactant, however, is what we plan to study in the next few months. I will let you know the outcome as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



HNE:GEE

Herman N. Eisen, M.D.